Cracklin' Static

November 2017 Edition

1968 50th Anniversary 2018
SIERRA NEVADA
Amateur Radio Society

Breakfast Meeting – Sat, Nov 4th

Boomtown Casino Hotel
Events Center
I-80 at Exit 4 in Verdi

Breakfast Buffet – 7:30am - $12
General Meeting – 8:00am

Featured Presentation
Solar Eclipse Balloon Flight
Paul Verhage, KD4STH
Nearsys.com

SNARS NOON NET – Weekdays
12:00PM - SNARS Linked Systems
http://snars.org/nets

SNARS NET on DMR – Tuesday 8pm
DMR Talk Group: 31328 SNARS

SNARS Treasury – Ending Oct 31

Checking:	$6,837.21
Savings:	$5,245.30
PayPal:	$2,465.06
Trust:	$9,123.43
TOTAL:	$23,672.00

SNARS Membership – ending Oct 31

Technician:	121
General:	94
Advanced:	19
Extra:	113
SNARS Members	**349**
ARRL Members	231

President's Voice

President Anthony Marcin, W7XM
Email: w7xm@snars.org | Telegram: @w7xm_nv

I open this edition of the president's report with some great news. We have taken back the NVCON State Convention and is planned for July 20, 21 and 22nd 2018 at Boomtown. It was decided by the Vegas group that they were not able to host the event this year due to some scheduling conflicts. Once I received word of this we starting looking into the possibility of hosting it again and we are a go for next year. We have already reached out to Vendors and have had some very positive feedback on the date chosen and looking very promising of having some great vendors next year coming to the Reno Tahoe Area. We will be looking for volunteers to help plan this event. If you are interested please let me know ASAP as we are planning to begin the planning committee meetings shortly. You can email me at w7xm@snars.org if you are interested in helping to serve on the NVCON 2018 Planning committee.

We will also be looking for help during the event as well and will be putting up a call for volunteers on the website soon at http://nvcon.org.

New Membership Benefit

We are beginning another great program for members in 2018 and includes the opportunity to check out HF Gear to test, learn and hopefully help educate those wishing to get into HF. The club recently purchased two additional FT450D radios for members checkout. The only requirement to do so is to attend a training workshop to understand how to use the radio, selection of an antenna and the basics of how HF Radio works. This hopefully will allow those looking at getting into HF a entry to learning how to operate a radio before purchasing one. If you have a FT450D this course would also benefit you as we will go over the basics of how to use the radio. Stay tuned to our website under the classes section on Date, Time and Location for the HF 101 Course using the FT450D HF Radio.

1968 50th Anniversary 2018

SIERRA NEVADA Amateur Radio Society

PO BOX 7727 Reno NV 89510
Yearly Dues: $40.00 Individual ● $50.00 Family
775.453.4142 http://snars.org

2017 Officers

President.....Anthony Marcin, W7XM
Vice-President .....Jim Shepherd, W6US
Treasurer .....Bill Jones, AE7OX
Secretary.....Rob Dunbar, NB6C
Director.....Wes Vick, KG7QXE
Director.....John Byerly, N7ROJ
Director.....Barry Bettman, K6ST

2017 Staff

Cracklin Static .....Howie Holden, WB2AWQ
W7TA Trustee.....Peter DeBay, KE7VSR
KR7ENO Trustee .....Howie Holden, WB2AWQ
Control Operator.....Pat Sheehan, W7DED
Historian .....Jon Fox, KF7KTC
Tech Team Lead .....John Byerly, N7ROJ
Membership .....Anthony Marcin, W7XM
PIO.....Vacant
VE Coordinator .....Bill Nichols, NN7K
Meeting Greeter.....Bill Jones, AE7OX
Noon Net Manager .....Wes Vick, KG7QXE
DMR Net Manager .....Anthony Marcin, W7XM
Reno Ham Swap .....Rob Dunbar, NB6C
Webmaster.....Anthony Marcin, W7XM

Cracklin Static Publication

Editor: Howie Holden - holden7471@msn.com

Cracklin' Static is the Newsletter of, and sponsored by the Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society. Opinions expressed herein are those of the editors and contributors and should not be considered as official expressions of the Club Officers, Staff or Club Members, or as endorsements by same.

Material for publication may be edited to enhance readability or to save space. We reserve the right to use whatever font size or line spacing may be required to publish this Newsletter. **Deadline for input to the newsletter is 1500 hours on the Sunday** prior to the 1st Saturday of each month.

SNARS Wide Area Linked System

147.030 + Pl 123.0	Sparks, Fernley, Fallon	
147.210 + PL 100.0	Reno, Sparks	
147.150 + PL 123.0	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	
146.925 - PL 123.0	Lovelock, Fallon	
146.670 - PL 123.0	Winnemucca	
444.875 + PL 100.0	Yerington	
444.125 + PL 123.0	Reno Sparks	

DMR Systems

444.925 + CC 1	Reno, Sparks	
444.825 + CC 1	Dayton, Fallon, Carson	
443.925 + CC 1	Lake Tahoe, Truckee, Carson	
443.950 + CC 1	Incline Village	
442.875 + CC 1	Sparks, Fernley, Fallon	
442.850 + CC 1	Downtown Reno	
441.950 + CC 1	Fallon, Fernley	

Fusion Systems

146.610 – PL 123.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	

IRLP / EchoLink Systems

147.300 + PL 123.0	Reno, Sparks	

Packet / APRS

145.050 - RNO	Reno, Carson, Dayton	
145.050 - ROSE	Lake Tahoe, Truckee. Carson	
144.390 - TOULON	Lovelock, Fallon	

Standalone Systems

147.390 + PL 100.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	
443.075 + PL 123.0	Reno, Carson, Dayton	
927.0875 + PL 114.8	Reno, Carson, Dayton	

Online Offline Not Linked

Thank you to our Sponsors/Supporters

BOOMTOWN CASINO ★ HOTEL RENO, NV

Noon Net
Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society

Weekday on the SNARS Linked System

147.030 + PL 123 – Sparks/Fernley
147.150 + PL123.0 – Lake Tahoe / Truckee
147.210 + PL 100.0 - Reno
444.875 + PL 100.0 - Yerington
146.925 - 123.0 – Lovelock / Fallon
146.67 – PL 123.0 - Winnemucca

Monday through Friday @ 12:00pm

Open to all amateur radio operators. A general informational net for the amateur radio community of Northern Nevada and Eastern California. Radio Checks and Questions are welcomed.

Nets on the SNARS Linked Systems

147.210 + 100.0 | 147.030 + 123.0 | 147.150 + 123.0
147.670 – 123.0 | 146.925 – 123.0 | 444.875 + 100.0

Bishops Storehouse Net	Monday @ 9:15pm
N. Western NV ARES Net	Monday at 7:00pm
Northern Nevada Preppers Net	Wednesday @ 8:00PM
Hospital Net	Friday @ 10:00AM

Nets on IRLP (GSR) System

Repeater: 147.300 + 123.0

Amateur Radio Newsline	Monday - 8:00PM
Nevada Skywarn Net	Wednesday - 7:00pm
Nevada State ARES Net	Thursday - 7:00PM

Nets on Simplex/HF

Jefferson Noon Net	7.204 LSB	Daily - 12:00pm
6 Meter Net	50.350 USB	Tuesday – 8:00pm
2 Meter Week Signal	144.250 USB	Wednesday - 8:00PM
2 Meter Simplex Net	146.500 FM	Thursday – 8:00PM
10 Meter Net	28.350 USB	Sunday – 2:00PM

DMR
DIGITAL MOBILE RADIO

SNARS Weekly DMR Net – Tuesdays 8:00PM

SNARS Talk Group 31328

Open to Members and Guests. A general information net each week on DMR.

SNARS CALENDAR

QCWA Nevada Chapter Sat, Nov 11, 11am – 12pm

Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que, 4925 Kietzke Ln, Reno, NV

SNARS Board of Directors Mtg Wed, Nov 15, 6pm – 7pm

Washoe County REOC, 5195 Spectrum Blvd Reno, NV

New Members for October 2017		
Dale	Yanz	KJ6IX
Brian	Hearn	AD7GW
Anthony	Ustica	KB7NV
Benjamin	Echavarria	N7BBE
Subrina	Vinton	KI7OAL
Anthony	Ken	KI7PPQ
Ed	Terlau	KG7ZOP
Jeffrey	Rea	AB4GTO
David	Sorensen	KG7NLW
Joel	Stone	K6RIP
Stephen	Waters	KE7YBD
James	Ball	KI7RAG
Robert	De Cosse	K7FMR
Danny	Chittenden	KI7RAK
Bill	Hillendahl	KH6GJV

SNARS LOGO ITEMS

This year we are celebrating our 50th year by providing many ways to commemorate this occasion by imprinted our 50th

Stickers $1.00 Each

16oz Coffee Mugs $8.00

Hats $10.00

Club Badge $15.00

Order at
http://snars.org/store/badge-order

Items are available at the monthly meetings, events or online (coming soon) http://snars.org/store

THE NAME OF THE GAME

Jim Shepherd, W6US | nvjims@gmail.com

SWEEPSTAKES!

No, you won't have some celebrity carrying an oversized check and a bouquet of balloons ringing your doorbell, but you will have fun. The ARRL Ham Radio Sweepstakes are this month. There are actually 2 events, the weekend of November 4 is the CW Sweepstakes and the weekend of November 18 is the Phone contest. These are separate contests so you do not need to work both.

The objective of the contest is to work as many hams in as many ARRL and Canadian RAC sections as possible. There are 83 combined sections, and working all of them is called a "Clean Sweep". The contest is held on the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter bands, and you can work a station only once. Your score counts only the contacts made during your first 24 hours of operation. Off times greater than 30 minutes do not count as operating time. If you go to bed at midnight and get up and start operating again at 6 Sunday morning, that is 6 hours off time so you can operate the entire rest of the contest…

You are only allowed to work your first 24 hours on the air for credit. Breaks must be at least 30 minutes to count as time off. If you happen to work over 24 hours, don't worry and continue logging—those extra contacts don't count for you, but they might help some other ham get his Sweep. The big computer at ARRL will calculate your operating time from your computer generated Cabrillo formatted log. If you send in a paper log, you must indicate your off time.

The CW contest starts at 2100 UTC on Saturday November 7 which is 1400 Pacific Standard time, and ends at 0259 UTC on Monday, November 3 which is actually 1859 Pacific Standard time on Sunday evening. The Phone contest starts at 2100 UTC on Saturday November 21 which is 1300 Pacific Standard time, and ends at 0259 UTC on Monday, November 23 which is actually 1859 Pacific Standard time on Sunday evening.

The exchange is a little complicated and changes with each contact. It consists of a consecutive serial number, a precedence letter, your call sign, a check number and your ARRL section designator. Most computer contest logging programs will generate the serial number. The precedence letter describes your operation: "Q" is used for single operator QRP, "A" is for single operator low power, "B" is for single operator high power, "U" is for single operator unlimited, "M" is for Multi-Operator, and "S" is for School Club. The check number is the last two digits of the year you were first licensed. My Phone sent exchange would be like this: "VE7JW I copy your 327 Bravo VE7JW 85 BC, please copy my 135 Alpha Whiskey Six Uniform Sierra 92 Nevada"

You can print out a list of all the sections and their proper abbreviations at http://www.arrl.org/contest-sections-list. This will help you enter the correct one into your logging program. This is the same list as we use for Field Day and I have laminated it back-to-back with the band plan http://www.arrl.org/graphical-frequency-allocations to make a handy reference. On voice, be prepared to clarify Nevada as "November Victor" for your contacts who do not know our state's abbreviation.

In a change from earlier years, you must send in your log within 5 days from the end of the contest. They really would prefer that you email in your electronic log or use their web entry program as they can be immediately loaded into their computer. All logs must be uploaded or postmarked by 0300 UTC on November 11 for the CW contest or 0300 UTC on November 25. For those who do not have a computer contest logging program, you can get one for free from http://n1mm.hamdocs.com/tiki-index.php . The N1MM program is one of the best around and the price is right!

Strategy? During the daylight hour concentrate on 10 and 15 meters if they are open. After dark 160, 80 and 40 will be your best bets, especially to get the contiguous states that the higher frequencies skip right over. 20 meters is usually good during the day and well into the darker periods. If you are breaking pileups and having everyone you call come right back, consider 'camping' on a frequency and calling CQ. Nevada is one of the rarer states, and especially early on and near the end, lots of hams will be looking for us as a multiplier. Listen to the pile-ups and if you are hearing the called station well, give 'em a try, especially if they are from one of the rarer

sections. Northwest Territories, the Maritimes, Maine, Eastern Washington, Newfoundland, Maine and Nevada are some of harder to get sections. On 10 meters it is hard to get most of California, Oregon, and Idaho, so if you hear one, go for it!

Even if you are not serious about running the contest, this is a good opportunity to pick up some states for the Worked All States award as there will be lots of activity. If you are not interested in contesting, the WARC bands will be free of contest activity and will probably have some good DX as the DX stations are not part of this contest.

Any participation can help other operators and even the SNARS club, so go ahead and send in your log to both the contest and Logbook of the World. Your contest entry should list "Sierra Nevada ARS" as your club so we will show up in the listings. The ARRL has changed their Club rules, and all club members who think they may want to participate need to register with me before the contest. Send me an email with your call and your 6 digit grid zone designator at least 4 days before any ARRL contest so I can update the list and get it to the ARRL. You can determine your 6 digit designator by locating your transmitter location on Google Earth and then putting that latitude and longitude into the calculator at http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/tools/grids.php

Complete rules and other information can be found at http://www.arrl.org/sweepstakes. If you have additional questions, feel free to contact me at nvjims@gmail.com any time except during the Phone Contest when I will be on the air with the internet and my phone shut off!

Last year's Nevada results:

http://www.arrl.org/results-database?ss_class=&ss_sect=NV&clb_name=&ss_call=&sort0=&sort1=&sort2=&event_id=83438

MIKE'S MISSIVES CHAPTER THIRTY ONE

Mike Katz, N7MSK

PART 97 – Broadcasting ---- 97.113(b)

Can you broadcast traffic reports and similar information on the local repeater? The answer is a resounding ***no!*** Part 97.113(b) is clear: Broadcasting is not permitted on the amateur bands. The FCC defines broadcasting as "transmissions intended for reception by the general public, dither direct or relayed" 97.3(a)(101). You may think it's helpful as a public service to relay or retransmit traffic reports or newscasts on the local repeater, but Amateur Radio transmissions are not intended to be transmitted and received by the general public. Even allowed one-way amateur transmissions, such as code practice or HF propagation bulletins, are intended for an audience of licensed Amateur Radio operators, not the general public.

Along these lines, you are not allowed to retransmit commercial AM or FM radio broadcasts or television audio or video. The two allowed specific retrainsmissions are weather bulletins transmitted by US government stations (such severe weather alerts from the various NOAA weather radio stations) and, with permission NASA manned space communications. In both cases, remember that you may not conduct such transmissions on a routine basis.

Amateur Radio's reputation for providing accurate information means that amateur transmissions are occasionally used as a source of information by local television and radio stations. Broadcasters are aware if SKYWARN and other emergency activities and will occasionally use information from Amateur Radio communications to help with news programming. There is a fine line line between what is acceptable and what is not in this area.

In an emergency, Amateur Radio can be used to directedly provide news information if several conditions are met:

1) The information must be directly related to the event;
2) It must involve the immediate safety of life or property; and
3) No other means of communications are available at the time of the event.

The general rule is that Amateur Radio is not to be used for newsgathering for production purposes by the media-97.113 (b). This is an important protection intended to stop encroachment by commercial news media who may see Amateur Radio as an inexpensive alternative to other communication systems.

Remember as well that the FCC rules provide some flexibility to allow the amateur community to meet its basic purpose of providing emergency communications. In a disaster or emer-

NAME THAT RIG

(Answer on page 8)

FUN STUFF FOR NOVEMBER

Looking for some excitement on the bands during November? There's something for everyone on the air!

The contests in **bold** may qualify for the ARRL club contest competition.

4 Nov 0000 to 5 Nov 2359 50-1296 ARRL EME Contest CW Ph Dig www.arrl.org/eme-contest

4 Nov 2100 to 6 Nov 0300 1.8-28 ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW www.arrl.org/sweepstakes

11 Nov 0001 to 12 Nov 2359 28 10-10 International Fall Contest, Digital www.ten-ten.org

18 Nov 2100 to 20 Nov 0300 1.8-28 ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB Ph www.arrl.org/sweepstakes

25 Nov 0000 to 26 Nov 2359 1.8-28 CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW www.cqww.com/rules.htm

For a full list of contests, see:

http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/2017/November%202017%20Corral.pdf

If you're not into contests, there's always DX to chase, and November has tons of good ones! Some of the better DX operations coming up in November:

Oct 31 to Nov 03 **Liberia 5L3BI**

Nov 01 to Nov 07 **East Timor 4W**

Nov 01 to Nov 15 **Hong Kong VR2**

Nov 02 to Dec 01 **Guinea 3XY3D**

Nov 03 to Nov 06 **Norfolk I VK9**

Nov 03 to Nov 16 **Mellish Reef VK9MA**

Nov 04 to Nov 28 **Mauritius 3B8HC**

Nov 06 to Nov 17 **Burundi 9U4M**

Nov 07 to Dec 04 **Tanzania 5H3DX**

Nov 11 to Nov 25 **San Andres & Providencia 5K0T**

Nov 13 to Nov 26 **Guinea Bissau J5T**

Nov 17 to Nov 30 **Vietnam 3W9CW**

Nov 23 to Dec 12 **Rodrigues I 3B9HA**

Nov 29 to Dec 07 **Galapagos HC8LU**

Visit http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html for current info and full lists!

SIERA UPDATE

Received the following from Greg Moore KG7DMI:

Greetings Howie,

I've recently taken over as head VE and Liaison for the SIERA club in Carson/Minden area. (I'm also a SNARS member) I'd like to request that the information in the Cracklin Static be updated to reflect our current location and contact information. We still will maintain the same 3rd Saturday on Odd numbered months as we have in the past.

I enjoy your work on the news letter and always look forward to the information within.

Sponsor: Sierra Intermountain Emergency Radio Association (SIERA)

Time:	9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact:	Greg F. Moore (775) 267-4606
Email:	kg7dmi@frontier.com
VEC:	ARRL/VEC
Location:	Shepherd of Sierra Lutheran Church 3680 US Highway 395 S Carson City NV 89705-6855

Thank you for your attention to this matter,

Greg Moore - KG7DMI

NAME THAT RIG

(from pg 7)

In the early to mid 1960's, repeaters were just coming into their own. Most VHF activity was AM, with a smattering of CW and SSB. There were many modestly priced AM tube-type transmitter-receivers by the likes of Hallicrafters, Lafayette, Clegg, Heath, and dozens of others, covering mainly six and/or two meters, offering 5 to 15 watts output, often crystal control, marginal receive performance, and usually less than great modulation. AM Radios from across the "pond" were slow to hit the VHF scene. The radio pictured is a **Trio (now Kenwood) TR-2E,** and it was first available in 1967. It offered full two meter coverage, separate VFOs for RX and TX, top notch receive from its 17 tubes, and an excellent plate modulation for it's 10 watt output. Plus it would run on either 110/220VAC or 12 VDC. But it really came on the scene a little too late, as by the latter part of the decade VHF operations were rapidly changing to repeaters and FM. Few of these radios were sold in this country. But Kenwood certainly made a name in the FM repeater crowd.

ARES NEWS

Saturday 11/4/17, 1000 at the Regional EOC, 5195 Spectrum Blvd, at the ARES training, Chris KD5KZ of National Weather Service will be giving a Weather Spotters Class on reporting Severe Weather. Also Chris will toss in some winter outlook info into the presentation.

Saturday 11/18/17 at the REOC will be a One Day Ham Cram, Amateur test review starting at 0800 SHARP!

Anyone attending **MUST** sign up on www.SNARS.ORG/classes and scroll down to the One Day Ham Test review.

Any questions, contact me:

Bob Miller WA6MTY
Amateur Radio Emergency Service Emergency Coordinator
775 843-5952 www.wcares.us

Board of Directors Meeting

October 11, 2017 – 6:00 PM

Great Basin Brewery, Reno

DRAFT MINUTES - To Be Approved on November 8, 2017

1. Call to order at 5:57 PM

Anthony Marcin, W7XM	Yes	Barry Bettman, K6ST	No	Rob Dunbar, NB6C	Yes
Bill Jones, AE7OX	Yes	John Byerly, N7ROJ	Yes	Wes Vick, KG7QXE	Yes
Jim Shepherd, W6US	Yes				
Visitors None					

2. Approval of Minutes

NB6C moved to approve the Minutes from 8/16/17 meeting. N7ROJ seconded the motion and the motion passed.

NB6C moved to approve the agenda as presented. W6US seconded the motion and the motion passed.

3. Reports

President's Report – The hamswap did well. W7XM will be attending Pacificon

Secretary Report

Status Report –There will be no election this year as the number of nominations was the same as Board positions open. W7XM, AE7OX, W6US AND K6ST are re-elected for a 2 year term.

Change of Organization Type from Chapter 81 to Chapter 82 – NB6C will look over documents prepared by W7XM.

Membership Coordinator

Currently 335 members.

Treasurer

Banking balances as of September 30, 2017: Checking: $9,892 Savings: $5,246 PayPal: $1,449 Trust Fund: $9,388 for a total of $26,425

Technical Committee - Report

Mt Rose – New antenna installed. Replaced coax with hardline. Moved link antenna from Lobdell link to Rose and is now a yagi. Need to replace shield control cable

Ophir – Going to change network. Changed Yaesu repeater from DR1 to DR2. Need to figure out why no network connection.

Toulon – W6US adjusted audio levels.

Winnemucca – Need to set up a way to disconnect Elko link.

Peavine – 444.125 analog repeater to be installed soon.

Linking – Looking to use SLR repeater radios for link.

Control Operators / Trustee - Report

No Report

Events

Nevada QSO Party – looking to change date of QSO party 2nd Saturday in October.

Education Team

Tech class cancelled, lack of signups

Upcoming workshops

Noon Net

Going well.

HF Team

No Report

4. New Business

SNARS 50TH Anniversary Celebration – W7XM is working on.

Purchase two FT450D radios for checkout. Members will only be able to check out radio after training. NB6C motioned to purchase 2 radios, motion 2nd by N7ROJ. Motion passed.

Reno Tahoe Hamfest – Working on.

Purchased of new link radios – Discussed in technical committee report but no action taken.

Field Day – NB6C offered to chair field day.

5. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be November 8, 2017 - Wednesday at 6:00PM – Great Basin Brewery, Reno.

6. Public Comments

7. Adjournment at 7:07 PM by N7ROJ 2nd by KG7QXE